

# Washington State Patrol Media Release

**Chief Lowell M. Porter**



## Office of the State Fire Marshal

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### Fire Training Academy Students Pay Tribute to Jon Cahill

On Monday June 28, 2004, eighteen members of the Washington State Fire Training Academy's 2004-2 Recruit Class and one Academy staff member climbed to the top of 4,082-foot Mailbox Peak carrying a firefighter's helmet shield and a bull dog, with a clear understanding of accomplishing two distinct goals—the first, to meet a time-honored tradition started many years ago of climbing to the top of "Mail Box Peak" and leaving a memento of their accomplishment; and the second, to honor a fallen comrade, Captain Jon Cahill of the Auburn Fire Department, who recently died while ascending Mount Rainier. After reaching the rickety black mailbox sitting above the tree line on a 4-inch by 4-inch post wedged into lichen-covered rocks, they affixed Captain Cahill's helmet identification shield to the mailbox lid and placed a Recruit "Bull-Dog" Award inside the mail box. These two items will serve as a reminder to future groups ascending Mail Box Peak of the passing of not only a friend, but also a highly professional and dedicated member of the fire service.



The mountaineers represented Kittitas County Fire District #2, San Juan County Fire District #2, Snohomish County Fire District #7, Snohomish County Fire District #18, Snohomish County Fire District #26, Lynnwood Fire Department, Maple Valley Fire and Life Safety, North Highline Fire Department, Pacific Fire Department, Renton Fire Department, Snoqualmie Fire and Rescue, Vashon Island Fire Department, Woodland Fire Department, and Woodinville Fire and Life Safety. They have recently entered into their eighth week of training and are looking forward to graduation on July 16, 2004.

*The Office of the State Fire Marshal is a Bureau of the Washington State Patrol, providing fire and life safety services to the citizens of Washington State, including inspections of state-licensed facilities, plan review of fire protection systems and school construction*

*projects, licensing of fire sprinkler contractors and pyrotechnic operators, training Washington State's firefighters, and collecting emergency response data. For additional information, you may visit our Web page at [www.wsp.wa.gov](http://www.wsp.wa.gov) and then click on "State Fire Marshal."*

*For more information on the Washington State Fire Training Academy, contact the Office of the State Fire Marshal at (360) 753-0400.*

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